Periodical

DECEMBER, 1932

THE CRISIS

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THE

CRISIS

W. E. B. DU BOIS, *Editor* IRENE C. MALVAN, *Business Manager*

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NEXT MONTH

Our greatest news for next month is that beginning with 1933* THE CRISIS *will yield to the depression and general hard times by announcing a new policy.

Notwithstanding this, we expect to keep up the same high standard. Next month our readers may expect:

"Will the Negro Rely Upon Force?" By E. A. Schaal, Professor at Johns Hopkins University.

"The Last Word in Cuba." By Margaret Ross Martin. Being the life story of Juan Gualberto Gomez.

In addition to this, there will be an interpretation of the late election by the Editor.

For later numbers, we still have:

Negro Education in Georgia.

The West Indian and the American Negro.

Edward N. Bannister, the Artist.

Folk Songs in the Virgin Islands.

Vol. 39, No. 12 *Whole Number 265*

THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at* 69 *Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as its official organ. It is conducted by a Committee of the Board of Directors, and the Editor is assisted by a Press Conference, composed of the Business Manager, Roy Wilkins and Herbert Seligmann. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15c *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879, *and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*
The contents of THE CRISIS *are copyrighted.*

As the Eagle Soars

In spite of your wealth and prosperity you are tired, you are not happy. I have not seen any signs of happiness in all the Western countries. This age belongs to the West and I do acknowledge that humanity has to be grateful to you, but we who belong to the East, we know no great ache in our hearts. It is truth you have gained for yourself, but in gaining this truth you have exploited those who are helpless, you have hurt those who are weak. The greater part of this world suffers from the fact of your own civilization.

—RABINDRANATH TAGORE

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As the Crow Flies

White Americans are welding Negroes, first, into a Race despite their mixed blood; and secondly, into a fighting economic unit. It is impossible to starve twelve million people in a world of plenty unless they are incurably stupid.

•

Do not forget that there just wasn't any answer when Senator Dill pointed out that 239 rich men gave $2,500,000 to the Republican Party in the 1928 campaign and received tax refunds of $114,655,729. Of course this might have been accidental. How about 1932?

•

We are going to suggest that in future geographies the yellow race be represented by Sun Yat Sen; the white race by Calvin Coolidge, and the black race by Roland Hayes. Or, if you don't like that, how about Chiang Kai Chek, Toussaint L'Ouverture and Charles Darwin?

•

The central economic problem is income and this truth is self-evident: that no one should receive an income which is not a wage paid for present or past service rendered the community by the recipient. It is inconceivable that any possible human service by one person, should enable another person to do nothing and live in luxury all his life.

•

My friend, DeSmythe, hasn't been hungry for years. The faintest hint for a real desire for food in his insides fills his mouth with wild hurrahs and his belly with terrapin. Mr. DeSmythe thinks that a hunger march on Washington or London should be severely dealt with.

•

We are beginning to wonder if anything so awful could happen on this earth:—fall of stars, explosion of Heaven, earthquake of land, or collision of comet—anything that Authority could not and would not persuade itself that this was a good omen in the best of all possible countries and finest of all thinkable worlds?

•

Our hats are in the air for little Haiti. The United States presents it with a beautiful little treaty full of red seals. And the treaty says: "You're free. You're independent. You may go your way alone, except, of course, I'm going to take charge of your pocketbook." Can you believe it, Haiti was mad and didn't sign.

•

Has anyone heard so much talk as has been in the air during the last few months? And to what end? Did it leave us clear-minded or more muddled? Was it designed to explain or mislead? After all, what good is talk, when the facts are in dispute.

•

The thing that Samuel Insull did has been done by English, French and American Big Business a thousand times in less than one thousand years. It consists of telling poor people on your word of honor that if they will invest in your enterprise their money will be safe and they will be on the road to riches! In an untold number of cases, the persons saying these things knew it was a lie, and they ought to be punished for theft. All we do is to pick out one tottering old man, and let him take the rap, and a light rap at that.

•

This is the football season. It is a time when universities hire football players to put on an exhibition which is exactly the same thing as the gladiator's contest or the bull fight. Yet, when anybody tells the truth about this situation, the universities indignantly deny the accusations and the newspaper writers assert that football is safe, particularly for those who are not killed.

•

One thing characterizes our day. You can have vast marches of hungry, ragged human beings in the greatest capitals of the world concerning whose awful plight there is no dispute, and yet the world holds great stores of wheat and corn and cotton that are rotting for want of use. This isn't merely an incident; it isn't simply a problem; it is the suicide of civilization.

•

Our method in America is when we get a political problem, quickly to stop discussing it and make it a sacred icon. In early America, we taxed goods which the people wanted to buy in order that our people might make and sell them for a higher price. In some cases, this was justifiable and others it was not. Today, we have taxed the life out of trade through an indefensible tariff and if you dare discuss it, you are blaspheming against God.

The Crisis In Liberia

By HOWARD W. OXLEY

THE Republic of Liberia, founded by American colonization societies more than a century ago as a home for freed American slaves, is threatened with having her independence taken away by the American Government and the League of Nations. The chief power behind this movement is the Firestone Rubber Company which has a million acre rubber plantation within the Republic and a five million dollar loan to the Liberian Government which it wishes to protect.

Through the leadership of the Firestone Company an indictment has been framed against Liberia in such a way as to induce the United States Department of State and the League of Nations to cooperate in planning to set up a white dictatorship in Liberia in the place of the present republican form of Government which has prevailed there since 1847. The indictment has been so framed that it has obtained almost universal support among the leaders of the nations at Geneva, and even the two reports of the commissions sent down to Liberia by the League of Nations are used as evidence in support of the indictment.

The indictment charges the Liberian Government with a series of high crimes resembling slavery, and that certain high government officials were profiting from such a social system. Specifically, the League's Committee of Inquiry reported that there was domestic slavery, pawning, abuses in connection with contract labor sent to Spanish colones, and forced labor without the payment of wages. These conditions shocked America and Europe, and general resentment followed. Liberian officials came to be thought of as slave drivers, and the great mass of native peoples were thought of as slaves. The mere mention of the name Liberia became odious and repellant to the finer sentiments and intelligence of civilized peoples.

The American Government and the League of Nations united on a program for stamping out this system. A committee of experts was sent down to study these conditions, and make recommendations for the rehabilitation of the country. An excellent plan was outlined, but difficulties arose over the means of executing the plan. It was maintained that the Liberian Government officials would not cooperate in making the plan effective. In order to make the plan effective, therefore, it was agreed by the representatives in Geneva that a white dictator should be selected by the League who should have absolute powers in Liberia. He was to be responsible only to the League of Nations. But it was soon learned that the Firestone Company wished to reserve the right to name such a dictator, and that he must be an American.

Mr. Oxley, during the years 1929 to 1932, was Educational Advisor to Liberia, and to the American Advisory Committee on Education in Liberia. This American committee consists of representatives of three colonization societies: the American Colonization Society, the New York State Colonization Society, and the Boston Trustees of Donations. In addition to this, the Foreign Mission Boards of four churches are represented on the committee, the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, the American Lutherans and the Colored National Baptist Association. With these also, there is a representative of the Phelps Stokes Fund. At the nomination of this committee, and by appointment of the President of Liberia, Mr. Oxley spent three years in Liberia working on the educational system. He is a personal friend of President Barclay and speaks with unusual authority concerning Liberia's problems.

Liberia thus stands condemned before the world; she faces having white dictatorship over her; the Barclay administration will be subservient to white control, and the elected officials of the country will become mere figureheads. The destruction of Liberian independence will have been made complete. The Firestone Company will have completed its plans for controlling the country in order that their rubber plantations may prosper. The economic system of America will have been clamped down upon a helpless country, and the last opportunity which Negroes have had for free and unmolested experimentation in self-development and self-determination will have been destroyed.

But there is another side to this question. Great changes have been taking place in Liberia. Unbiased understanding of these would make the appointment of white dictators in Liberia seem unwise and unnecessary. In the first place the shocking conditions reported by the committee from the League of Nations are directly chargeable to the administration of President King, and not to the new and younger generation of administrators in Liberia. President King ruled Liberia with fear and an iron hand. No one dared oppose his policies. He controlled the press and barred free speech. Liberians and foreigners alike who disagreed with his plans and policies did not dare speak or write about them. Even foreign bound mail was closely censored, and if suspected of containing anti-administration information, was promptly seized and destroyed. Persons high up in his official family did not dare criticise him because they feared bodily harm. Edwin Barclay, then Secretary of State, now President of the Republic, was such a victim.

Foreign assistance, however, encouraged those in Liberia who disagreed with President King. Popular sentiment forced him to issue a proclamation freeing the slaves, pawns, and every form of contract or forced labor was eradicated. Not stopping with this, President King was forced to resign and the liberal, progressive forces of the country drafted Edwin Barclay for Acting President. Mr. Barclay promptly summoned to his aid all the best elements in the population to rid Liberia of the evils of President King's administration. Because of the thoroughgoing manner in which he accomplished these reforms, he was elected President of the Republic for the next four years.

President Edwin Barclay has spent a life time in the public service. He was born in Monrovia, the capital city, January 5, 1882, and was educated by private tutors, there being no public schools. In 1900 he enrolled in Liberia College, from which he graduated in arts and law in 1903. From that time to 1909 he served in the Department of State, when he was entrusted with the reorganization of the public school system, which work was completed in 1911. Due largely to his efforts, the Superintendent of Public Instruction was made a member of the President's Cabinet. In 1912 he was appointed a Circuit Judge, in which position he served four years, resigning after completing his duty of laying down the principles governing the application of the new Judi-

ciary Act. In 1916 he was appointed Attorney General, where he served for three years, resigning to take up the larger duties of Secretary of State in 1919. He served three terms as Secretary of State under President King, that is from 1919 to 1929. Upon President King's forced resignation, December 3, 1929, the Legislature called him to act as Acting President until the regular presidential election in May, 1930. He was overwhelmingly elected to succeed himself for four years.

The slavery evil was abolished legally by President King before he was forced to resign; President Barclay completed the job by setting up machinery for adjusting those who had served as domestic slaves, pawns, or contract and forced laborers back into natural, normal life again. This was indeed a difficult task because of the depression. But the greatest difficulty was with the affected individuals themselves; they preferred to remain with their masters rather than starve or try to find their way into the new freedom offered them. Such a system is rooted deeply into the traditions and customs of Africa, and cannot be eradicated by law; education and social and economic development over many decades will finally remove it.

In addition to recommending the abolishment of conditions resembling slavery, the League Committee proposed the complete reorganization of the administrative machinery affecting native peoples in the hinterland. Many of the evils were traced directly to the incompetent, inefficient Liberian commissioners who plundered the helpless natives. Immediately upon his election to the presidency in May, 1930, President Barclay reorganized completely an interior administration set up along lines which had been most successful in British and French colonies. In a recent communication from President Barclay, he expressed great satisfaction with the excellent result which the new plan was producing. His chief problem is to build up a personnel capable of mastering the difficult problems of managing native peoples.

The League Committee also recommended that steps be taken to improve the sanitary and health conditions of Monrovia and other coast towns. A department of Public Health and Sanitation was organized, and a noted white physician of Hungary appointed as its chief. The British Government loaned Dr. Howells of the Gold Coast to help out in the initial stages of its organization and development. There were no funds, but the President arranged to transfer certain moneys from other departments in order that the health work might continue. The operation and maintenance of adequate health conditions in tropical countries are much more expensive than in this country, and the source of revenue is much more limited. If this work is to become effective outside aid must be given.

The basis of almost all of Liberia's problems is found in the economic and financial conditions of the country. The early colonists never had any money before going to Liberia, and there has been little opportunity of earning or saving money since the first Negroes arrived a century ago. They were unaccustomed to tropical living; the climate was hot the year around; the rainfall approximated 175 inches a year, most of it falling during the rainy season which lasts six months; the impenetrable jungle was infested with wild beasts, poisonous insects and reptiles; and the natives were hostile and frequently pounced upon the meagrely protected colonists and massacred them and burned their huts. The chief occupation of the people was that of self-preservation—organization of the colonists for self-defense.

In every respect President Barclay and his associates have labored earnestly and tirelessly to right the wrongs of his predecessor. Likewise, he has solicited the cooperation and help of not only the foreigners in Liberia, but the leaders of other countries. But these have turned him down. Those living in Liberia, bent on setting up white control, refuse to cooperate because they do not wish him to succeed. They even go further than that; they sometimes set up obstacles which defeat certain policies, in order to cite these failures as examples of inability and incompetency, and use them as further evidence in the indictment.

The American and foreign governments have blocked President Barclay's efforts to rehabilitate Liberia through a policy of non-recognition. Their position is that no Liberian is to be trusted; successful performance and not promises is wanted; to compel this, all groups must present a solid front to Liberia until she carries out successfully all the reforms demanded of her. President Barclay's administration is shadowed by the failures of his predecessor, and they continue to plague him. Although the American Government has had her Minister there for the past two years, he was not allowed to call upon the President officially. He obtained all his information concerning the government's policies from men in the street, and such propaganda became the basic information upon which the United States Department of State constructed its policy toward Liberia. Had there been friendly cooperation, there would have been an entirely different story to tell.

In spite of the fact that President Barclay has eradicated the system of slavery socalled of President King's administration, and in spite of the fact that he has done everything within his power to improve the other conditions which the League of Nations recommended should be done, the American Government, under constant pressure from the Firestone interests, continues to demand white dictatorship through the League. There can be but one possible meaning to this, and that is to get absolute control of the government of Liberia so as to protect the Firestone investments there. In other words, the development of a great rubber plantation in Africa is considered to be of greater importance than the development of a great nation of free people. The great humanitarian movement which began more than a century ago for the purpose of freeing the slaves and helping them to work out plans for their own self-determination and self-government seems to have run amuck. Its new leaders seem bent on industrial enslavement upon a larger scale than ever before.

When the black man was enslaved before, he was ignorant and helpless. Today he is educated and experienced in every phase of social and economic development. When the movement for abolition began the Negro seemed not to be interested in his own freedom; today, he is leading the fight for freedom and even equality. Liberians love liberty, and know what freedom means. They will never submit voluntarily to white dictatorship.

The Liberian people welcome reforms. In fact their desires along this line run far ahead of their ability to finance them. They welcome the cooperation of white people. Too often they have been mistreated and taken advantage of by white people. Some of them have come to be suspicious of all efforts of white men to help them. But once their confidence and faith is established, they will follow the advice of white leadership. At the present time they have come to mistrust the efforts of those who are recommending reforms for their impoverished country. The prevailing belief amongst the masses in Liberia is that this most recent movement to regenerate Liberia is a final attempt to destroy their independence and sovereignty. This has become a terrible fear to them and accounts for their behavior toward the project. It is only natural therefore that they hide behind their primitive methods of protection.

The attempt to set up white dictatorship in Liberia, therefore, would be tragic and futile. Liberia will never submit to it. But Liberia would welcome cooperation. Any attempts to rehabilitate Liberia along any other lines will fail, unless, of course, force of arms is resorted to.

Max Yergan, Uplifter of South Africa

By HELEN R. BRYAN

SOUTH AFRICA in January—brilliant, ceaseless sunshine, cloudless blue skies, cities with dazzling white houses set in the midst of cool green gardens for the Europeans; and on the outskirts of the cities depressing, crowded locations for the Bantu Natives. In the country, acre after acre of beautifully tilled land where the European has his holdings, for the Bantu, some good land, more that is poor, encircles from two to five little mud red rondavels where he ekes out his living raising cattle and corn.

South Africa, at any time of the year, with her 5 million Natives, her 2 million Europeans, her 200,000 colored people and her 200,000 Indians and Orientals is a study in vivid contrasts. The 2 million Europeans own 80 per cent of the land leaving 20 per cent of the land for the 5 million Bantu people. Despite the fact that so much land has been taken from them and that in the past they have been urged to come to the cities to work for the Europeans and despite the fact that the Native comprises four-fifths of the wage earners of South Africa, the government is proposing a bill excluding the Bantu from all forms of skilled trade. Only in one province, the Cape, has the Bantu even the semblance of political franchise although every male adult is taxed.

In one of the most forward looking provinces, educationally, $80 a year is spent on the education of the European child, and approximately $12.50 on the Bantu child.

It is into this picture of flagrant injustice, and heart-breaking frustration that the life and personality of Max Yergan has penetrated with unique power. Born in South Carolina, educated in the South and the North he was sent out ten years ago by the International Council of the Young Men's Christian Association to work with the Native students of South Africa. He set up his headquarters on the campus of the one college which enrolls Native students—the South African Native College, at Alice, Cape Province and from here he has carried on his work of education of civilization.

Dinner one Sunday with the Max Yergans meant for us a new comprehension of racial trends in student and adult life in the Union. Their home on the University campus created an atmosphere of warm beauty. Oriental rugs covered the floors, brasses glinted softly in the sunlight which drifted through the Indian blue draperies. Mrs. Yergan's interests have caught hold in this far away land most effectively in her work with Native women, but her chief occupation has been the training and education of Freddie, aged ten, Maxie, aged eight, Charles, aged six, and the utterly irresistible Mary, aged twenty months. It seemed a most discordant note in that delightful setting to learn that Mr. Yergan must drive these three little boys, distinctive in any group, in any country, for their charm and intelligence, eighty miles in his car to have their hair cut. No barber in the near vicinity of the college would o rashly risk his patronage as to add these three little boys to his clientele!

The Home and Center

Miss Bryan, Secretary of the Committee on Race Relations of the Philadelphia Friends, in order to broaden her outlook on problems of race, took last summer a trip to South Africa and her most interesting discovery was Max Yergan the young colored man who established Y. M. C. A. work among the Negroes of that land. The South Africans did not want him. They tried various methods of keeping him out, and some Americans co-operated. But at last, by dint of steady pressure, he got the chance to sacrifice his life in a great cause. And this is what he is doing.

When Mr. Yergan came to South Africa, no outline of work could be given him as there was no other work in the Y. M. C. A. or in that country which could be used as a pattern. As a result he has forged out his own program, his own policies, his own philosophy. His first objective was to erect a center for student activities on the campus of the college, which was a tremendous undertaking as no money was guaranteed for it. The student building which now stands is one that many a college in this country might envy. The large assembly room, the college chapel, drawing room, club rooms, offices, are all most adequate and most attractive. The young men and women of the college and people from the community used it extensively, but Max Yergan had further plans for its use. It was the fulfilment of these plans which acted as a bomb shell in the accepted mores of South African life. From June 27–July 3, 1930 in the student building Max Yergan carried through The Bantu-European Student Christian Conference which spelled the greatest step forward in understanding among South African youth in the history of that country. For six days three hundred representative young people, about three-fifths of them Bantu, the rest Europeans, and a small group of adults faced the needs and facts of their common life and together sought the solutions of their common problems. After two meals at which the students had been divided according to their race, a group of European students accosted the conference leaders with the inconsistency of their methods saying they had been summoned to the conference to think together but that this purpose was decidedly retarded by the artificial division in the dining hall. The system was arranged so as to conform with the students' suggestion.

This conference was an event of such proportions that all the important English papers and a number of the Dutch had reporters present and after the conference opened and its significance was recognized, additional telegraphic communications were set up with the home offices. The *Cape Times* carried three editorials regarding the conference and each of its sessions was first page news.

The influence on students of this conference has been permanent and incalculable. One outstanding young European said: "The conference was the greatest liberating experience of my life." It may seem a simple thing in this country to hold a bi-racial conference, but in that country where it was an unheard of thing for students of the two races to meet on any common grounds whatsoever the fact of the conference seems an almost superhuman accomplishment.

That same Sunday afternoon in his home Max Yergan told us of his very great desire to offer a two year course in the student building which would develop a new kind of leadership through the study of sociology, psychology, economics, anthropology and rural problems. He wished to send young men and women back into their communities trained and able to develop the social and economic life of that community—

leaders who would not be thinking solely in terms of salaries but who would be driven by somewhat the same motives as those which energize The Servants of India. Just as we were leaving South Africa we learned that Mr. Yergan had secured the necessary funds for this project and hopes to open the school for social study in the fall.

During our weeks in South Africa we visited forty or more schools and were fortunate enough to meet a number of the outstanding educators of the Union. As soon as the students or faculty members learned of our recent visit with Max Yergan, the first question was—"Did he say how soon he was coming to our school?" In a remarkable way he has made himself an integral and essential part of the Native schools he has visited and their confidence in his leadership is profound. During our visit he lectured in two of the large Universities—an extraordinary occurrence to have any other than a Nordic teaching the young, and even more incredible was the enthusiasm of the reception given him. Throughout the Universities small groups of students are thoughtfully discarding their inherited concepts regarding skin color, for the person and work of Max Yergan reveal to them most forcibly the utter fallibility of their previous position and the high adventure that awaits them through the discovery of personality on the basis of worth and community of interests. The Native students are finding in his inescapable sincerity and in the fact that he is now the pivotal personality for any student work, a great sense of encouragement and the reason for a greater faith in the realization of their own capacities as future leaders.

Not only in the schools and colleges is the impact of this man's wisdom but wherever there is even the slightest willingness to think in terms of the Native he is sought out to interpret the Bantu people. Business men, baffled a bit, because they are even listening to a darker skinned person, listen to Max Yergan with the utmost respect as he places before them with amazing acumen the economic reasons for a new Native policy. Gold mine laborers organized into clubs are insistent in their demands that he come and speak to them. One club of over two hundred men one night listened spellbound to him as he presented with convincing simplicity the ways and means of creating a native leadership of such high standards that South Africa could not afford to reject it. Missionaries, faced as they are with almost insuperable difficulties turn to him constantly for counsel. The agencies set up to promote racial understanding are anxious for his advice at every turn. And perhaps of even greater significance is the fact that individual leaders who are carrying on a campaign of greater justice for the Native have come to turn to the depth of insight and serenity of spirit which are Max Yergan's for an ever new realization of their own powers. They find in his integrity—strength, in his understanding of prejudice—a new freedom from it.

The Yergans

It was impossible not to express to Max Yergan how great was the need of him in our own American racial situation. But his time and mind and heart are hostages to South Africa's future. He said of our situation—"When I was at home last summer I found it difficult to be patient with our prejudice, so frail are the grounds justifying it." Ten years ago when he went to South Africa, he was faced by suspicion, antagonism, fear from all quarters. Today he stands in the midstream of that same life and is able to say—"The cooperation I have from the Bantu is constant and one hundred per cent." And one of the outstanding educators, a European, president of a most important school, who has been in South Africa for twenty-five years, said to me—"We have in Max Yergan a greater man than Aggrey."

An Ode to Colored American Womanhood

By Eliza Lee Kirkpatrick

I CRAVED a rendezvous with God,
And out of Zion God appeared
In spotless white, the risen Lord:
Raven lashes swept his glowing cheeks
In majesty His head was reared,
He was no more the lowly, meek.

Proudly he smiled on me that day,
And mien and aspect seemed to say,
The world is saved, I've come to stay;
"Daughter," quoth he, "Hold thy head high,
"Behold, Redemption draweth nigh."
And traveling in a golden cloud,
He stooped and touched this mortal shroud.

The golden cloud He rent dispersed
And stood in robes immaculate,
And all about and all around,
The golden cloudlets drifted down,
And strewed themselves upon the ground.

Upon that holy ground we trod,
And thus I walked and talked with God.

Deep in His holy love immersed,
I felt transported from this earth,
To some fair distant universe
I saw the shrine at Montsalvat,
And heard the grand "Magnificat".
Above the shrine was writ in verse
Of slavery's and Eden's Curse.

They called to me to expiate
And their dark stains eradicate.
The voice of God spoke soft and low,
"It was for this I came to you,
Ah, sable, Goddess 'tis thy fate,
And 'tis thy choice, thy blest estate
Thy song, the Grand Magnificat".

I looked upon God's countenance,
As he discoursed in eloquence,
Expressing love, expressing hope.

And as I gazed upon that face,
I saw that light from this dark race,
Had lit His pathway to this place,
And love and light had set Him pace.

'Twas dawn, and heavens earths and hells,
Rang out St. Mary's homing bells.
Sang angels, "Peace on earth, good will!
"To all mankind in every clime.
"God gave His son the world to save,
"The Son in turn a son had craved.
"And victory had robbed the grave!"

On, on, I dreamed all cares away,
No more in rags at break of day,
Sought I for work to win me bread,
Or just a shack to lay my head;
No more the landlord's threatening calls,
No more of anything that galls—
At last I dwelt in kingly halls.

(*Will you please turn to page* 388)

ALONG THE COLOR LINE

AMERICA

The Election

Colored Congressman De Priest re-elected from Illinois; seven Negro legislators elected in New York, Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania. Pro-Parker Senators Watson and Bingham defeated. Hoover out. Not so bad!

Down in Oklahoma, 1,100 Negroes in Wagoner County, who have been fighting for registration since 1928, are still in court.

On the other hand, Baltimore for the first time in twenty years, has put Negroes on her juries.

Pie

The National Civil Service Reform League says that the real fight in the past election was over the distribution of 135,000 political jobs. To prove this, colored papers are reciting the fact that in New York City Negroes have two judges, a Civil Service Commissioner, a Police Surgeon, and eighteen other appointees receiving from $2,500 to $12,000 a year, and a couple of dozen at a lower rate.

Investigation

Mr. Hoover, as a final gesture before election, appointed a committee to investigate the N. A. A. C. P. charges of peonage and bad treatment in the building of Southern levees. Dr. Moton, Judge Cobb, and E. K. Jones are the colored members. U. S. Grant, III., whom the colored people of Washington know too well, is the fourth member.

Phelps-Stokes Report

The Editors of the report come to several conclusions concerning the Negro, some of which we quote:

The American Negro and the civilized African native have been passing during this period through a transformation hardly paralleled in history. It has carried with it enormous advances in education and improvement in economic and living conditions. With these have come inevitably certain extremely difficult problems of readjustment.

The most encouraging single factor in race relations during the period has been the formation of interracial groups for study and action in various localities. These have brought some of the highly educated white group in contact with the highly educated Negro group to the advantage of both. As a result we have seen the beginning of constructive planning on many important problems affecting Negro people.

The most significant single transformation of twenty years in public opinion is that no man can now command any thoughtful hearing who tries to draw a barrier to progress and say "thus far and no further" as far as Negro potentiality is concerned. That potentiality has been proved beyond question. Given the right educational opportunity and the right environment the individual Negro of talent has proven himself capable of high achievement in every field of effort, whether it be art, or literature, or education, or religion, or medicine, or science.

The question of civil rights of the black population is increasingly to the fore and will not down. It is realized that just as Abraham Lincoln was right in stating that this nation could not endure "half slave and half free," so those are right who maintain that this nation and every other democratic nation that wishes to survive must make its tests of citizenship objective and applicable to all who can meet them, irrespective of religion or race. There should be no disfranchisement or abrogation of other civic rights based on a man's birth alone.

THEATRE

Jethro

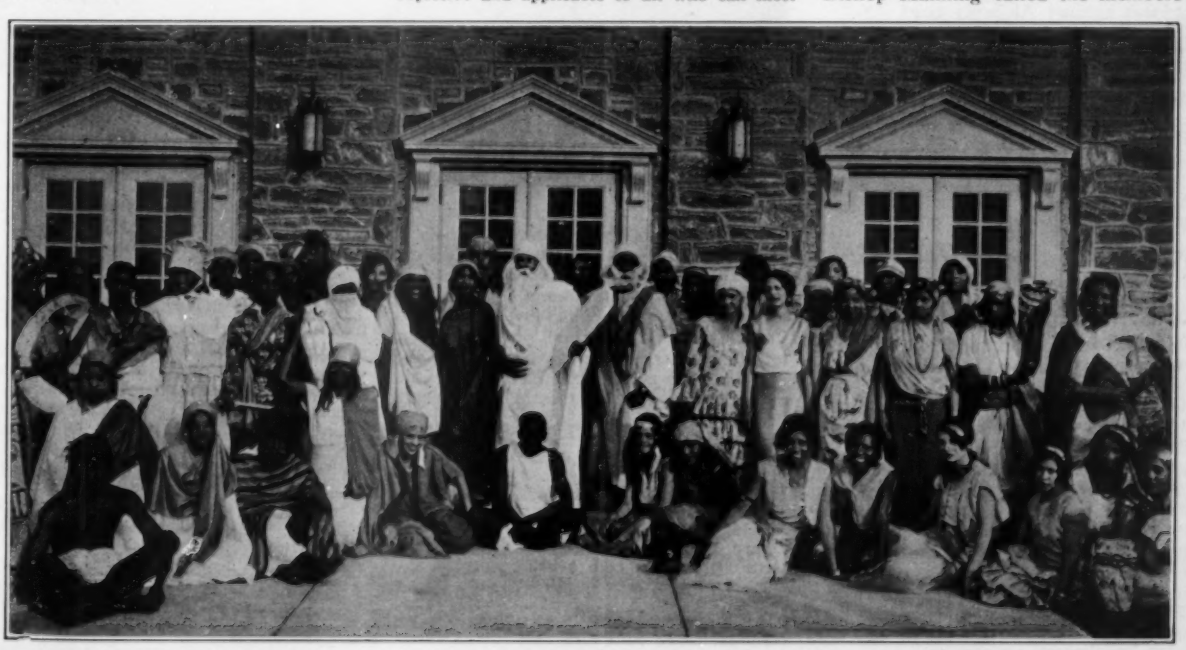
Last year, at Cheyney State Teachers' College, Pa., students funds were getting low. By state law, students who did not pay their fees, had to be dismissed. But the Principal, Leslie P. Hill, did not let them go. Instead, he pledged the state that their fees would be paid, and then he wrote a play about "Jethro, the Ethiopian, who gave mankind the idea of representative government"—a well-known biblical theme. The play was given twice in Cheyney and once at Harrisburg, with great success. The cast had 56 players, and the costuming and singing were of unusual beauty.

Repertory Playhouse Associates

Rose McClendon, Frank Wilson, Regina Andrews and others have formed a company in New York to give courses of training on play-writing, acting, singing and speaking. They propose from time to time to produce plays. Paul Green, Alain Locke, Benjamin Brawley and James Weldon Johnson are associated with the project.

THE CHURCH

The 9th Annual Convention of church workers among colored people has been held in New York, with 100 Negro clergymen and numbers of laymen in attendance. Bishop Manning called the members the



Jethro
The Cheyney Students in Costume

"most interested, enthusiastic and most self-sacrificing men and women in the diocese of New York."

Seventy-five and One Hundred and One Years

The Emanuel African M. E. Church at Portsmouth, Va., has occupied its present house for seventy-five years and was organized in 1831, the year of the Nat Turner insurrection. At first it had a white pastor and white and colored people worshipped together for several years. In 1857, the present site was bought and dedicated, the black slaves crowding the building and over-flowing the streets, and a small number of white people sitting about the altar. At that service the slaves gave a collection of $225.20. The same pews are there now, and the first Negro pastor was James A. Handy, afterward a bishop of the church. Dr. L. L. Berry is the present pastor.

SCHOOLS

Tuskegee

It is reported that Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee, together with Mrs. Moton and W. T. B. Williams, Dean of the College, will visit British Guiana in company with two students of that land who have completed their work at Tuskegee.

Carver and the German

A German boy of 19 has had a rather rude awakening to the intricacies of American education. He was studying in an Ohio College and had an assignment for ten days of independent study. He proceeded to Alabama to study under the well-known scientist, Dr. George Carver, of whom he had read of in a library at Dayton, Ohio. He is not yet able to understand why he was not allowed to study with Carver. Of course, such a thing was against Alabama law!

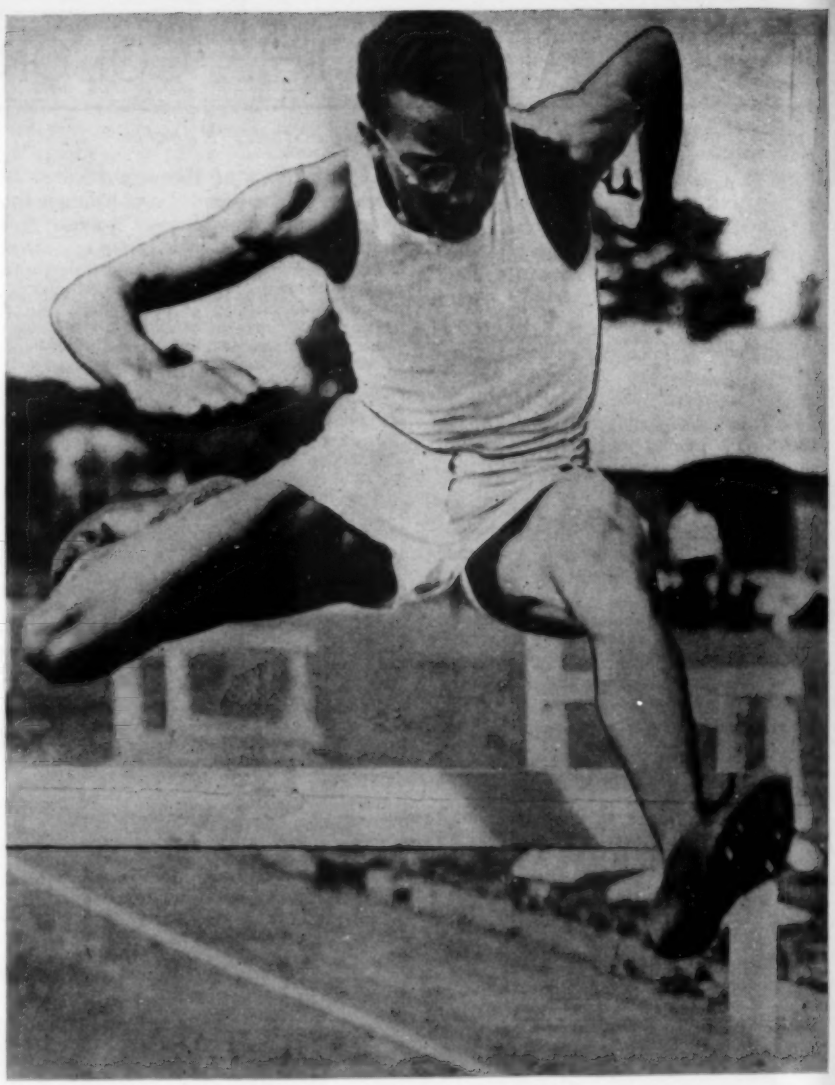
Howard

Howard University has registered 1,435 students for the fall, divided into 442 in the Liberal Arts Course, 386 in Education, 60 in Science, 98 in Music, 97 in Graduate School, 199 in Medicine, 39 in Dentistry, 22 in Pharmacy, 44 in Law, and 48 in Religion. The total enrollment last year was 1,703.

A Colored Catholic University

The dedication of the recently completed new College Unit of Xavier University, New Orleans, Louisiana, took place on October 12th. His Eminence, D. Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, presided.

Xavier University, conducted by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, the first Catholic College for the education of Negroes in the United States, was opened in 1925, sharing the same building with Xavier High School. Increased enrollment and the extension of the curriculum required a new and separate building for the College. This new unit is a gem of college architecture and is regarded as one of the finest and best equipped educational institutions in the South. Although the present enrollment is 280, the new unit will provide for 500 students.



Amsden
A National High School Record

SPORTS

Amsden

In one of the many mixed schools in Dayton, O., there is a most unusual colored boy with a record of athletic prowess unequaled in two generations.

Amsden Oliver, who graduated from the Dayton High School this year, was fairly popular, extremely well-bred and reserved, and even in the face of a definite racial antagonism left this brilliant record behind him:

1930:	
District interscholastic, 220 yard low hurdles	24 1/10 sec.
State interscholastic, 220 yard low hurdles	24 sec.
World interscholastic, 220 yard low hurdles	23 6/10 sec.
District 120 yard high hurdles	15 6/10 sec.
State 120 yard high hurdles	15 4/10 sec.
1931:	
District quarter mile	50 8/10 sec.
New Junior A. A. U. 220 low hurdles (old record stood 11 yrs.)	23 8/10 sec.
New 220 world's record interscholastic low hurdles	23 5/10 sec.

For the 2nd consecutive year, Amsden has been picked for the all-American interscholastic track team.

Dempsey and Wills

Tunney in his recent book, "A Man Must Fight", declares that Dempsey suffered a spiritual tragedy by refusing to fight the Negro, Wills. He thinks if Dempsey had fought Wills instead of himself, that he would have got more money and retired with the championship and an immortal name. But he was afraid of Wills and chose Tunney, with resultant disaster.

ORGANIZATIONS

Health

A public health convention was held at Hampton Institute in October. They warned against the hook worm disease and venereal diseases, and stressed public health nursing.

Farmer Conference

Tuskegee will hold its 42nd annual Negro farmers' conference this month. This conference has had extraordinary success and wide effect. They will talk about relief and education and will be divided into group meetings for farmers, women, teachers and preachers.

Virginia

The State of Virginia for twenty years has had a Negro Organization Society which held its annual meeting last month. White and colored teachers addressed the assembly and especially stressed better colored schools for Virginia.

Colored Women

A National Association of Colored Women, of which Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart is President, was organized in 1896 and incorporated in 1904. It is affiliated with the National Conference of Women and has headquarters at 1114 "O" street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The women and groups connected with its organization have instituted industrial homes for girls and boys in many Southern states, established day nurseries, and opened homes for working girls. They bought and beautified the home of Frederick Douglass, and have paid up its mortgage. They have raised $10,000 of a $50,000 national scholarship fund which is borrowed by and re-paid by college girls.

WORK—WASTE—WEALTH

Exploitation

The continuing and increasing exploitation of Africa, the rape of its natural wealth, and the use of its labor at starvation wage, is sowing seed whose harvest will yet be red. From the British Gold Coast in 1931-1932, there came over $3,000,000 worth of gold and $1,000,000 each worth of manganese and diamonds. There were employed 11,839 natives and 232 Europeans. And this is the story of only one British Colony.

Japanese in a Hotel

We sometimes forget that California has a variety of color problems: Negroes, Japanese, Chinese and Mexicans. This makes difficulties in hotels, schools and nearly everywhere else. In Los Angeles, however, the Japanese have money and wealthy visitors, and the big hotels have an eye to gain. Recently, therefore, the Ambassador Hotel, one of the largest and most fashionable, has opened a department for Japanese guests only. A Japanese manager has been put in charge, and Japanese trading companies will have headquarters there. A Princess stopped there recently. Now the other hotels are taking notice.

A Lynching County

South Carolina has a law which makes a county pay the widow of a man lynched $2,000. In 1930, Allen Green, a colored man, was lynched. The widow sued, and obtained judgment. Moreover, although eighteen persons were accused of the lynching, they were all let go. Recently, however, Landy Harris, one of the discharged, has confessed that he took part

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in the lynching. Meantime, the County has not paid a cent. And who is going to make it?

Losing Farms

The Norfolk, Va., *Journal and Guide* calls attention to the fact that under Woodrow Wilson, colored field agents were employed to study the needs of colored farmers and present their case before the U. S. Farm Loan Board. These were dispensed with under Harding and his successors, and for this and other reasons, 37,590 Negro farmers lost their farms between 1920-1930. Land operated by white farmers increased 34,000,000 acres, and that operated by Negro farmers, decreased 3,835,000. All of which is food for considerable thought.

The Fenced Ocean

Along the whole coast of the United States, there are very few places where Negroes can bathe in God's ocean, unmolested. In New Orleans, colored people for years have tried to get a bathing beach assigned them. Recently they asked one near the Shushan Airport. The result has been furious protest from the white residents. They say that a Negro bathing beach there would depreciate real estate values and be a nuisance! And what are Negroes as compared with real estate?

Charity

In Kansas City, there were seventy teams trying to raise the city's quota for charity relief during the winter. Team 8 is colored, and led by Roy Barker. It was the first team to go over the top, and collected instead of its quota, $8,300, a total of $9,387. And of this, more than 45% was in cash. When one considers that these people suffer most from poverty and unemployment, and have an average wage far below normal standards, this is some record.

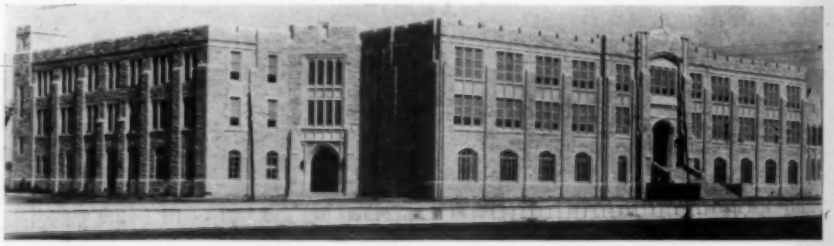
Relief in Atlanta

The Westside Unemployed Committee of the Neighborhood Union, under the chairmanship of Mrs. John Hope, made during the past year a brave fight for systematic relief. It had difficulties of all sorts and the problem of maintaining harmony with the white city organizations, who were peeved at having colored co-workers. But this colored organization had seventy-four workers; held twenty-six mass meetings, attended by 5,282 persons; visited 1,769 homes, and distributed 3,521 pounds of food, besides 617 garments.

Doctors

Of the 3,805 Negro physicians in the United States, 92 are women, says a report of the Census Bureau. By states, giving total Negro population and number of Negro physicians, is the following tabulation:

	1930	Population 1930
United States	3,805	11,891,143
Alabama	114	944,834
Arizona	10	10,749
Arkansas	102	478,463
California	67	81,048
Colorado	9	11,828
Connecticut	14	29,354
Delaware	13	32,523
D. C.	191	132,068
Florida	96	431,828
Georgia	190	1,071,125
Idaho	1	668
Illinois	333	328,972
Indiana	80	111,982
Iowa	8	17,380
Kansas	42	66,344
Kentucky	128	226,040
Louisiana	107	776,326
Maine	.....	1,096
Maryland	81	276,379
Massachusetts	47	52,365
Michigan	100	169,453
Minnesota	5	9,445
Mississippi	69	1,009,718
Missouri	196	223,840
Montana	.....	1,256
Nebraska	11	13,752
Nevada	.....	516
New Hampshire	.....	790
New Jersey	.....	208,828
New Mexico	3	2,850
New York	.....	412,814
N. Carolina	163	918,647
N. Dakota	.....	377
Ohio	.....	309,304
Oklahoma	103	172,198
Oregon	1	2,234
Pennsylvania	206	431,257
Rhode Island	4	9,913
S. Carolina	64	793,681
South Dakota	.....	646
Tennessee	285	477,646
Texas	205	854,964
Utah	.....	1,108
Vermont	.....	568
Virginia	163	650,165
Washington	3	6,840
West Virginia	65	114,893
Wisconsin	7	10,739
Wyoming	.....	1,250



Xavier
The New Colored Catholic University. *See page 378*

FOLKS

Mississippi Land

It is reported that 25% of the privately owned property in the State of Mississippi is for sale for back taxes. If this is true for the whole state, one can imagine the plight of the black farmer.

Reconstruction Judge

Jonathan Jasper Wright was a judge of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, from 1870–1877. He was born in Luzerne County, Pa., about 1839. He moved to Susquehanna County, where he went to the district school during the winter months and worked for farmers during the summer. After studying at Lancasterian University, Ithaca, New York, he returned to Pennsylvania and for two years taught school and read law. When he applied for admission to the bar, the committee refused to examine him on account of his color. He was sent by the American Missionary Association to South Carolina as a teacher. After a time, he returned to Montrose, Pa., and demanded an examination. He was finally admitted to the bar August 13, 1865, being the first colored lawyer in Pennsylvania so recognized. He served under General Howard in the Freedman's Bureau in South Carolina; was a member of the Constitutional Convention, became State Senator, and on February 1, 1870, he was elected to the Supreme Court. He is admitted to have been an excellent judge and his opinions were well written.

Eva Mahuma

Eva Mahuma sailed for Africa last month. At her departure, members of the faculty of Columbia University gave her a tea. She is a fine and extraordinary woman, one who brings out the innate culture and spirit of African womanhood. She landed in the United States from South Africa in 1925; took her Bachelor's degree at Wilberforce and her Master's degree at Columbia. Her husband, Andrew Morake, is a student at Wilberforce. Eva Mahuma will go to Swaziland and there establish a school on land given by a native chief.

In Miami

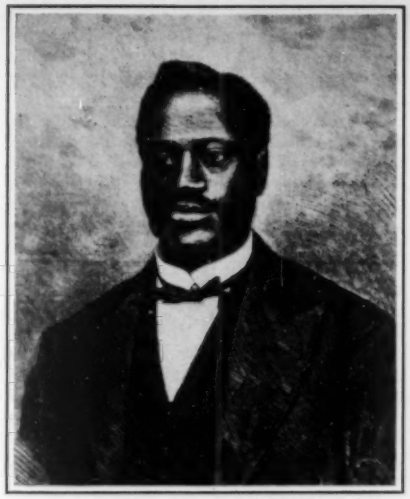
The problem of the colored physician is singularly difficult. Suppose, for instance, a colored woman wanted an operation in Miami, Florida; she is going to have great difficulty in getting decent attention. But there are some colored doctors there, who, under great difficulty recently, have been doing things. Dr. W. B. Sawyer of McGill University, Canada, and Doctors Kershaw, Mazon and Green, during the last ninety days, have performed in their little hospital, seven successful major operations; and in this work, they had to face not only the handicap of a poorly equipped and privately sustained hospital, but the natural doubt and reluctance of the colored people themselves.

LIFE AND DEATH

Died

Slatin Pasha is dead. He was an Austrian Baron, born in 1857, who helped Chinese Gordon and other English steal the Sudan in North Africa. He was captured by the Mahdi and cruelly punished, but finally released when Khartoun fell. He returned to Egypt and served with Kitchener and afterward worked under the English in the Sudan.

In British Guiana, the Honorable A. R. F. Webber was born in Tobago and became a radical champion of democracy in West Indian federation.



Judge John J. Wright
An Upright Official

In Jamaica, James W. Springer, born in 1887, one of a family of 11. He won an Island scholarship for an English college, and returned to Jamaica to teach. He obtained his Master of Art's degree and was successful in school work and social activities.

Sophia Jones

Another member of a remarkable family is dead. The Jones family of Canada had four daughters and two sons. Of the death of one of the daughters, we spoke in the July CRISIS. Now another, Sophia, is dead in California. She was born in 1857 at Chatham-on-the-Thames. She entered the University of Toronto in

Dr. Sophia Jones
A Pioneer in Medicine

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1879, and wanted to study medicine, but this was not allowed women at that time. She, therefore, taught school a year or two in Canada and then came to the United States, where she studied medicine at the University of Michigan, graduating in 1885. She started the first nurse-training class at Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, and practiced medicine in St. Louis and other cities. At Wilberforce, she became Resident Physician. Thence, she went to Philadelphia and then Kansas City, where her health began to fail, and with her brothers and sisters, she migrated to California. Here she lived for the last fifteen years. She gave her life practically to the care of others and the teaching of hygiene. On the last morning, she said: "I was in hopes that I should awake in another country this morning."

FOREIGN NEWS

ASIA

In Manchukuo

In 1917, the Allies decided that China must be brought into the war in order that her coolies might join the labor battalions behind the French lines, and in order that the Allies might seize the German ships in Chinese ports. Japan demurred but was specifically promised that if she would consent, the German claims in China and the German islands south of the equator would be transferred to Japan. After the war, the bargain was not kept, and this is one of the reasons for the seizure of Manchuria.

No wonder that the Lytton Report says: "It must be apparent to each reader that the issues involved in this conflict are not as simple as they are often represented to be. They are, on the contrary, exceedingly complicated, and only an intimate knowledge of all the facts, as well as of their historical background, should entitle anyone to express a definite opinion upon them."

British, American and French capitalists are exploiting China, and, of course, Chinese capitalists are doing the same. Contractors furnish labor for the mills by traveling among the villages. Parents are paid $2 a month for each child, while the contractors get $4 a month for each. The children work twelve hours a day in day and night shifts. Some of the workers are under six years of age. Those hired directly and not through contractors are paid from 5c to 6c a day for twelve hours' work. A vast hungry population competes for employment and capitalists can impose practically any conditions they like.

Gandhi's Fast

By refusing food, the British Government has been stopped from establishing separate electorates for one part of the Indian nation, and thus emphasizing national antagonisms and forwarding her policy of "divide and rule." This puts the burden of reform upon the Hindus, and the fact that Tagore, a high-class Brahman, travelled 1,300 miles to see Gandhi in jail, shows his hold on India. As Gandhi has said, Home rule for India will come when India unites.

AFRICA

The Belgian Native Beckons

A curious tempest in a teapot has been aroused in Belgium and in the Congo according to a report of the Colonial Minister and the head of the Catholic White Fathers. It seems that a report

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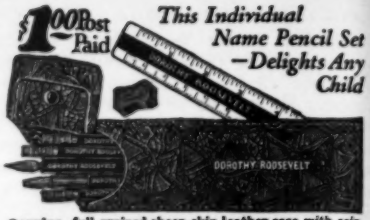

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has been persistently circulated among the natives that the United States is about to annex the Congo and send American Negroes there; and that when these Negroes come, the natives can expect an education which is now being denied them by the Belgians for fear they should equal the whites. Morover, the "rich" American dollar would replace the "poor" Belgian franc. The Belgians have been upset by these rumors and threaten to increase the difficulty which American citizens have in getting passports to or through the Congo. In the meantime, in 1931, there were landed at Antwerp, Congo products worth $20,652,000.

Congo Taxes

The persistent attempt in the United States to put the burden of taxation upon the poor is more than paralleled by the taxation of natives in the Belgian Congo. The income of the 9,500,000 natives probably averages less than $5 a family annually. Nevertheless, they paid in 1930, taxes amounting to $3,053,818, which was an increase of over half a million, as compared with 1929. "Generally speaking, the morale of the natives remains good, but fear is expressed that the economic crisis may have unfavorable consequences." We would expect as much and indeed during the last two years there have been three or four revolts.

French West Africa

The Governor-General of French West Africa has made his report for 1931. He notes one serious uprising where an officer, three sergeants and thirty-two men were killed and twenty-four wounded in September, 1931. He advocates greater care in the choice of chiefs and head men, careful preparation for their work, and periodical meetings with the white administrators. The sons of chiefs should have a liberal education, and be placed as secretaries in administrative positions before they take up their duties.

During 1931, there were 45,170 pupils in 355 government schools and 7,669 in 66 private schools. In addition to this, there were 974 pupils in 8 higher schools, and 710 in professional academies for apprentices. Also, there were 460 students in the secondary schools at Dakar and St. Louis. From these higher schools, a way is open for students to enter the professions. Already, 97 physicians, 150 midwives and 15 chemists have been trained.

Phelps-Stokes

Dr. Anson Phelps-Stokes is traveling about Africa and receiving great acclaim. He has been in South Africa, where he has addressed the universities and met whites and Negroes. He will touch East Africa and the Belgian Congo before coming home.

Ancient Civilizations

New light is thrown on the past of Africa by the discovery of ruins in Southern Rhodesia. In Niamara, there have been found iron heads, bronze wire, cut stone and ornamented pottery.

Depression

It is said that receipts from native taxation in South Africa will fall short by at

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least $600,000. This is because so much manual labor has been taken from Negroes and given to poor whites and because of crop failures and general depression. In the past when the natives were behind in their taxes, government officials raided them and took anything they could find to pay the deficit.

Annexation

The Minister of the Interior of the Union of South Africa is demanding that the Protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland be incorporated into the Union, instead of being under the direct protection of the empire. This would be a calamity for the natives, next to enslavement.

Justice

In large areas of British West Africa there are no jury trials for accused natives and no lawyers to defend them. This has been a method of stopping the employment of English-trained black barristers and of insuring the punishment of accused natives in spite of colored public opinion. Lately, a new Court of Appeals for parts of West Africa has been established, which allows an appeal from the Lower Courts, but this does not cover, for instance, all of Nigeria. There are still vast areas where the death sentence is passed by a judge, not necessarily a lawyer, and without jury or counsel.

Ruppel and Yeschowsky

In northern Tanganyika, 2 German residents have been convicted of feloniously assaulting 2 natives. In pronouncing sentence, the judge said:

"The whole affair can only be classified as a dastardly act, brutal in the extreme, and one which will create horror in the minds of many people of many nationalities in this country and elsewhere.

"This assault is barbarism and takes one back hundreds of years. One of the natives is still in the hospital as a result of the foul acts he received at the hands of those 2 accused, who are a disgrace to the European community, and to their nationality. They are not fit to be men, to be residents of such a country. Regarding any sentence I shall impose, the offense is punishable with 5 years' imprisonment. And although it is within my discretion to impose a fine, I do not consider that a fine would in any way be a just punishment for this offense."

WEST INDIES

Haiti

The great article of Haitian export is coffee. Each year she exports more than 10,000,000 pounds. The Illinois Central Railroad has reduced the freight on coffee from 51¢ to 39¢ a hundred between New Orleans and Chicago. Why cannot Chicago Negroes and other Negroes in the United States drink nothing but Haitian coffee? It is of fine and of unusual flavor. Beside the coffee, Haiti exports 100,000 pounds of cotton and 10,000,000 pounds of sugar. Bananas could easily be exported if the market was arranged.

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In Guiana

The Negro Progress Convention is an organization of forward-looking colored people, who held their eleventh annual session in Georgetown last August. The Honorable E. F. Fredericks was chairman. They talked about Tuskegee, their schools, the coming celebration of the Centenary of Emancipation and economic problems. They want American Negroes to visit them, especially in the Centennial year, 1938.

AWARDS

To J. W. Nicholson, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Northwestern University. His field of study was the Negro Church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Butler of Hingham, Mass., first prize for the culture and production of dahlias in a state-wide competition. Their farm has been in the family for several generations, and they have made a specialty of dahlia culture.

BOOKS

A study of some "Negro-White Families in the United States." By Carolyn Bond Day. Peabody Museum of Harvard University

This volume of 126 large pages and numerous illustrations is one of the most intelligent scientific studies of the Negro yet made, and bears the imprint of Harvard University. Its work was done under the direction of the Division of Anthropology of Harvard University by Carolyn Bond Day, a graduate of Atlanta University and of Radcliffe College. It was begun in Mrs. Day's senior year and carried on with interruptions, until in 1927, she received the support of the Bureau of International Research of Harvard University and Radcliffe College. Then, it was interrupted for a year and begun again under a graduate fellowship. The anthropometric date and the statistics were prepared for publication by Professor Hooton and his research assistant. The resulting study of American mulattoes is of great importance and includes careful measurements, photographs, and investigations in great detail of nearly 350 individuals. The author says:

"The people studied in this group are not, for the most part, the types with which the public is familiar individually, nor are they those used as literary material by the novelists and playwrights of today. Many of these families, especially those in the South, live in worlds of their own, tucked away here and there on some quiet street, or in little peaceful neighborhoods, frequently unknown and unobserved by those about them. The average tourist in the south never suspects their existence. If he is shown Negro life at all, he is usually conducted through a slum district, the squalor of which probably seems heightened to him by the fact of physical differences.

"I have been guided in the selection of these families by the facility with which a given number of persons of mixed blood might be interviewed and photographed within a limited time, as well as by the desire to keep the proportions of the sample representative, instead of pursuing the ideal of an especially selected group. I have therefore taken the precaution of trying not to include so many persons of any one type as to prevent the study from being a real cross section of life among colored people of mixed blood in this country."

Popo and Fifina. By Arna Bontemps and Langston Hughes. The Macmillan Company $1.50

This is a delightful little book for children written by two well-known American Negro authors and illustrated by E. S. Campbell. It is the kind of thing children of all colors will delight in and treats the migration of a black Haitian family with its little children from country to city, and their adventures there.

Sea Island to City. By Clyde V. Kiser. Columbia University Press $3.00

This is a study from the Political Science Department of Columbia University, written by a white Southerner and designed to come to the conclusion that most such studies reach. The Sea Islands were given to Negroes by General Sherman and they were finally confirmed in their possession. The population, however, has dwindled and large numbers of these South Carolina colored people have come to New York. An honest study would try to see why they came, but this study minimizes and distorts the real reason. It says that race relations were not the cause, but race relations were the cause, when the whole population of these islands is disfranchised, taxed without representation, and refused a decent portion of the school funds. No wonder that in thirty years the population has declined 45%. Because these people are land owners, the author concludes that they have no difficulties about landlords. They have something worse than landlords over them,—the owners of mortgages, the crop lien merchants and the dictators of the market in which they sell their crops. If there is one thing that a study like this ought

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to show, is that this migration is not the same as similar migrations of white people; but since the young gentleman who wrote it wanted to come to other conclusions, he naturally did.

The Negro in the Slaughtering and Meat-Packing Industry. By Alma Herbst. Hart, Shaffner & Marx Prize Essay. Houghton, Mifflin and Company. $3.00

An exhaustive study of one line of post-war industry in which the Negro has taken a large part. An introductory paragraph shows its main conclusions on Negro workers:

"The period of speculation concerning their ability to make good and prove themselves as acceptable wage-earners has also closed. Their performance is sufficient to put an end to conjecture; they have gained experience, and with it proficiency in a trade. But despite the achievement, their position and status remained unassured and precarious; they are again in a predicament, one in which new problems, fears, and barriers loom ominously. They are making no gain in industry. In fact, economic forces, affecting the employment of all workers, have brought a relatively greater diminution in the number of Negro workmen in the slaughtering and meat-packing establishments. As production is curtailed and unemployment sweeps the city, they are fighting for their jobs—for the unskilled stockyard work—which in Chicago has become traditionally "Negro." Brought by necessity, an increasing number of white men are replacing Negroes.

But even at the moment of temporary reversal, colored workmen are aware of their gains, and of the approaching competition for jobs which will soon occur between individuals of the two racial groups. The transition of the Negro from agricultural and domestic service to industrial was brought about by emergencies in the industrial life of the nation; the second phase in their industrial experience will transcend the first in social and economic consequence.

Negroes on the Island of Rhode Island. By Charles A. Battle.

The author tells a most interesting story of a group of people who for two hundred years have meant much in the development of the American Negro. The slave trade centered in Rhode Island, but when abolition came in the 18th Century, Negro regiments fought in the Revolution and Negro churches and other organizations arose. One has only to remember the name of Downing, Van Horne, Jeter, Rice and Bannister, to realize what Rhode Island has done for the nation.

Make Way for Happiness. By Alpheus Butler. The Christopher Publishing House. $1.50

This is Mr. Butler's first published collection of poems. They are pleasant, readable things, touching race difficulties only lightly, here and there. Perhaps there is nothing here that will greatly attract the careful reader, and yet now and then there are bits:

"Always within
My inner heart
Towering looms the city
Where dreams still start."

Postscript
by W. E. B. DuBois

"FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN"

THE man to whom the world is boredom and humdrum routine, easily forgets its miracles: the waxing and waning of the seasons, the marvel of sunrise and the glory of sunset. But even one who finds life tasteless or funny can not without trembling and amazement face the miracle of birth.

Comes, first, the ecstacy of the pain; the shattering, the tearing, wrenching physical agony, such as one reads of afar, but seldom in a lifetime hears within one's own doors. Then there is the new born child, an astonishing perfect microscosm of a bewildering universe; with lacework of fingers and toy toes, and great enveloping, disconcerting, unfathomable eyes. So fragile a bit of machinery yet working perfectly, rhythmically with blood, breath, heartbeat and moving muscle. What is Machinery to this Miracle? The cynic who is hard-boiled; who knows that life is cheating and singing and hating, stops whether he will or no and worships at a cradle.

We colored folk of this generation are foregoing the joy of children in wide degree. We recoil at the beastly pain, the primitive dirt, the endless work, the high cost. We remember in our own family hordes of unkempt, squalling brats; the slattern, haggard mother, the overworked, irritable father. When with discriminating care we choose the pleasures of life, in larger and larger numbers, we are choosing everything but children.

This younger generation,—not the youngest, but people of twenty-five, thirty, forty,—want comfortable homes; a small car; a chance to entertain friends now and then with cards and lunch; the theatre and the cinema; some travel, books and study. And yet those who have chosen this come singularly soon to recognize gaps. There is nothing like the tragedy of childless age. There comes rather suddenly to the man, and particularly to the woman of forty, a cutting off from present and future life which they cannot at first understand, and deeply resent. They are no longer young and they have fewer and fewer young companions. Youth and children about them speak a new and unintelligible language. Strange antagonisms and petty criticism arises between them and children and youth. At last, as they grow still older, they realize that before death they are dead, because they are separated from a new and re-created world.

There is no need of deceiving one's self at the cost of children. Macey's advertises a baby carriage at $59. The young mother in my family is continually astonished at the time the new baby consumes in mere eating. She has no sooner fed it, than "Wow!", she must feed it again. There is washing and dressing and undressing and bathing. Nursemaids are for the rich and at that costly in more ways than one. Even laundries are dangerous to health and pocketbook. And this is but the beginning of trouble. "You will never sleep quietly again," said a mother to the mother of my first born, who had complained of the 5 A. M. waking habits of her child. Cost, care, work, worry, all these children demand and must get.

Yet those who would re-make the world; those who have within the unearthly joy and verve of the creative artist, can accomplish nothing that compares with giving birth to, molding and raising a generation of men. With thought and effort, with pattern and ideal, the world in these coming children becomes a new and possible and explicable thing. Not all men, not all women, either by heritage or inclination, are suited to this high task. Few mothers have the physical strength, and few fathers the time and money for the raising of more than one or two children. But those who have the vision and the power, and who can bring a few children into the world, and give those children what children ought to have, in food and manners, clothes, training and ideals,—these are the ones and the only ones whose eyes behold the Glory of the Coming of the Lord,—whether He comes in Papal Rome or Soviet Russia or the low swamps of Mississippi.

FROM A TRAVELLER

I MOST emphatically think that the Negro has a better chance in Liberia than any where else in Africa. I haven't been everywhere, but the Gold Coast is supposed to be the very best colony in all Africa. I was seven weeks there. Let me tell you one incident. I was walking down the street by the market in Accra. The sidewalk was so crowded that the people were also filling the street. Most of them women and children. I did not see the first part of this incident but what must have happened was this: An Englishman in a car turned the corner very rapidly. A young Negro, well-dressed, very well-bred looking must have called out to the Englishman to be careful on account of the women and children in the street. He couldn't have called loudly or rudely or I should have heard. I was only a few steps away but looking in another direction. What I *saw* and *heard* was this: The Englishman stopped his car at the curb, jumped out upon the sidewalk and *slapped the young man in the face* and shouted (I heard him very easily!) "How *dare* you call out to me like that? Don't I know more about running a car than you. I'll have you arrested if you dare to call out to a European." The young man said absolutely nothing. Then turning, the Englishman saw me (I seemed to be the only European in sight), and said: "This is outrageous. Such insolence!" And I said: "You are showing them such a good example of self control, aren't you?" He turned redder and said: "It's you missionaries who ruin them." I didn't argue with him and tell him I wasn't a missionary. What was the use! He walked to his car and as he got in he turned to the perfectly silent crowd and said: "If any of you dare to shout at a European, I'll have you arrested! *And not one native made any protest.* They evidently knew it would be perfectly useless.

Contrast this with the story Mr. Buell tells about a Firestone man slapping a Liberian native.

The Liberian Government is not blameless, but its worst sins are shared by the would be reformers. If they forced men to go to Fernando Po and Libreville, the partners in the forcing were the owners of the European ships and the Spanish and French concessionaires or governments. The brutalities of the Frontier Force are brutalities

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practiced by soldiers everywhere—Americans in the Philippines, the English in Ireland, and the French, everywhere. The Liberian Government didn't have this standing army until the English and French forced them to. And as for taking lands and forced labor at home—where have there been in Liberia such forced labor as in the French Congo, such spoilation of land as in South Africa and Kenya?

I believe the graft the most serious blot, but as in Latin America, is it those who buy and benefit or those who are bought and are tempted who are most to blame? Mr. King was no worse than those presidents kept in Cuba, in Peru, and in Venezuela by American capital and the American Department of State owned by capital. The trouble with Liberia is that Liberia is objecting to the boa-constrictor—a proper hare should enjoy being swallowed.

I hope and pray that the Liberian Government will see that these taxes for their salaries are as wicked as the National City Bank and Firestone extortions. But we, of the country of the National City Bank and Firestone, have no right to throw stones. And as for law and order, you know one is safer in Liberia than in New York. Ask poor Lindbergh.

I know that Liberia is not able to spend so much on education as the British colonies, or the West Coast spends on the education of the Africans, but knowing how to read is not everything. Some Englishmen twitted Madariaga about Spain's wishing to have a permanent seat in the council, saying: "Why, the large majority of Spaniards are illiterate!" Madariaga retorted: "Does it show greater lack of intelligence not to be able to read—or to be able to read *The Daily Mail?*"

AN ODE

(*Continued from page* 376)

I woke at last, and mused and mused,
And somehow I was not confused.
For what a nation ever did,
Did we not try, and even succeed?
And what if that great principle,
Should bring again God's miracle,
To prove that we're invincible?

The burning stake, the fiery cross,
Bring death but that's material loss.
The immortal soul goes up to God,
Then, transmigrates, incarcerates,
Again within the mortal clod,
On to the glorious goal he'll plod
Till God transfigurates the sod.

God send that day when Ethiope
Shall lift her world-cursed head in hope,
And beg of Christ to send a Son,
By her that heaven and earth be won,
Then once again let it be done,
On high and heralded on earth,
And shepherds sing a new rebirth
And once again "Magnificat" and
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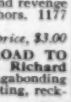

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